

Duplantier Family Tomb
North Claiborne Avenue;
St. Louis Cemetery #2
New Orleans
Orleans County
Louisiana

HABS No. LA-1107

HABS
LA
36-NEWOR
55-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

DUPLANTIER FAMILY TOMB

HABS
LA36 NEWOR
55-

Address: North Claiborne Avenue; St. Louis Cemetery #2,
New Orleans, Orleans County, Louisiana.

Present Owner: Mrs. Maurice A. Duplantier, 2428 Barracks Street,
New Orleans, Orleans County, Louisiana.

Present Use: Family tomb.

Statement of Significance: A typical Greek Revival family tomb in New Orleans,
Louisiana.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Dr. Thomas Peniston;
Duplantier Family.
2. Date of erection: c. 1850.
3. Architect: J. N. B. DePouilly.
4. Builder, suppliers: P. H. Monsseaux.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: According to the
present owner, the only work that has occurred on the
tomb has been the realignment of the cast-iron doors,
and repair of the lock. The enclosing railing and the
door panels are in need of repair.

B. Supplementary Material:

"St. Louis Cemetery #1. . . and St. Louis Cemetery #2, bounded
by North Robertson, St. Louis, North Claiborne, and Iberville
Streets, contain the tombs of many of the oldest families of
New Orleans. The contrast with the Canal Street cemeteries
is marked. The absence of trees and lawns, the white-washed
cement and stone, the bee-hive like appearance of the 'oven'
vaults along the walls, and the crowded condition of the
tombs produce an unusual effect." Louisiana, A Guide to the
State (New York: Hastings House, 1945), Federal Writers'
Project. p. 334.

C. Sources of Information:

Federal Writers' Project, Louisiana, A Guide to the State
(New York: Hastings House, 1945).

North Carolina State College, School of Design. Report
of Gerrard E. Raymond, architectural student. 1961.

HABS
LA
36-NEWCOM
55

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A typical example of a Greek Revival family tomb in New Orleans.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: 16'-2 1/2" x 8'-0" (facing southwest); on a masonry platform 21'-1 1/2" x 19'-3"; one story.
2. Foundations: Brick.
3. Wall construction: Ashlar masonry of marble.
4. Porches: Shallow distyle Doric portico.
5. Doors: Cast iron.
6. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Low-pitched, masonry, gable roof.
 - b. Cornice: Simple ogee cornice.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Small rectangular chamber with six vaults opposite entry.
2. Floor: Chute to "sarcophagus" in chamber floor.
3. Doors: Cast iron.

D. Site:

1. Orientation: Cemetery plot facing southwest.
2. Enclosures: Enclosing fence at platform edge.

Prepared by John C. Poppeliers
Architectural Historian
National Park Service
December 1962